

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheets of drawings include new FIGs. 3-18. These drawings have been added to address the Examiner's objections to the drawings and are believed to contain no new matter.

Attachment: Sixteen (16) Sheets

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-35 are pending in the application, with claims 2, 34 and 35 being the independent claims. Claims 1, 19 and 21 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. New claim 35 is sought to be added. Claim 34 has been amended to correct typographical errors. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants express appreciation for the Examiner's indication that dependent claims 5, 11, 18, and 21-24 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In the above claim amendments, Applicants have incorporated the subject matter of claim 21 into claim 2 and the subject matter of original claims 2 and 11 in new independent claim 35. As discussed below, Applicants respectfully request the allowance of all claims based on the aforementioned claim amendments.

Support for Amendments to the Drawings and Specification

The foregoing amendments to the drawings and corresponding amendments to the specification find support in each corresponding co-pending application which was incorporated in its entirety in the specification as filed. In summary:

New FIG. 8 and amendment to Paragraph [0023]: co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/629,797, filed July 30, 2003.

New FIG. 9 and amendment to Paragraph [0028]: co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/640,682, filed Aug. 14, 2003.

New FIG. 10 and amendment to Paragraph [0031]: co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/640,684, filed Aug. 14, 2003.

New FIG. 11 and amendment to Paragraph [0034]: co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No.: 60/495,129, filed Aug. 15, 2003.

New FIG. 19 and amendment to Paragraph [0038]: co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/641,160, filed Aug. 15, 2003.

New FIG. 12 and amendment to Paragraph [0039]: co-pending application, U.S. Patent Application No. 10/640,648, filed Aug. 14, 2003.

New FIG. 16 and amendment to Paragraph [0040]: co-pending applications,
U.S. Provisional Patent Application No.: 60/467,574, filed May 5, 2003, and U.S.
Patent Application No.: 10/629,781, filed July 30, 2003.

New FIG. 13 and amendment to Paragraph [0042]: co-pending application,
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/640,666, filed Aug. 14, 2003.

New FIG. 15 and amendment to Paragraph [0046]: co-pending application,
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/640,627, filed Aug. 14, 2003.

New FIG. 17 and amendment to Paragraph [0047]: co-pending application,
U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/641,031, filed Aug. 15, 2003.

New FIG. 18 and amendment to Paragraph [0051]: co-pending application,
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/641,004, filed Aug. 15, 2003.

New FIG. 3 and amendment to Paragraph [0053]: co-pending application,
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/641,295, filed Aug. 15, 2003.

New FIG. 4 and amendment to Paragraph [0062]: co-pending application, U.S.
Patent Application No.: 10/640,632, filed Aug. 14, 2003

New FIG. 5 and amendment to Paragraph [0064]: co-pending application, U.S.
Patent Application No.: 10/640,649, filed Aug. 14, 2003

New FIG. 6 and amendment to Paragraph [0067]: co-pending application, U.S.
Patent Application No. 10/641,103, filed Aug. 15, 2003

New FIG. 7 and amendment to Paragraph [0070]: co-pending application, U.S.
Patent Application No.: 10/646,833, filed Aug. 25, 2003.

Objections to the Drawings

The drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) for not showing every feature of the claimed invention. Applicants believe the aforementioned amendments to the drawings address all of the Examiner's objections. Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and withdrawal of these objections.

Objections to the Claims

Claim 34 was objected to for a typographical error. Applicants believe the aforementioned amendments to the claims address the Examiner's objection. Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 2, 19, 25-29, 31, and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,307,667 to Yeh et al. (Yeh). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Applicants note that Yeh's filing date is June 28, 2004, which is after the March 3, 2004 filing date of the instant application. Yeh purportedly relies on several provisional applications filed in June, 2003. Although Applicants have amended their claims to expedite prosecution and allowance as suggested by the Examiner, Applicants do not acquiesce to the propriety of applying Yeh as a reference against the instant application. Further, Applicants do not concede that the disclosures in Yeh are supported by the content of Yeh's various provisional applications.

Applicants have amended claim 2 to incorporate the features of dependent claim 11 and intervening claim 9 as suggested by Examiner (Office Action, page 8). Applicants request the reconsideration and allowance of claim 2. Claim 19 was canceled. Claims 25-29, 31, and 33 depend from claim 2. For at least the above reasons and further in view of their own features, claims 25-29, 31 and 33 are patentable over the cited reference. Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and allowance of claims 25-29, 31 and 33.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-10, 12-17, 20, 30, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 7,307,667 to Yeh et al. (Yeh) further in view of Official Notice.

Applicants note that Yeh's filing date is June 28, 2004, which is after the March 3, 2004 filing date of the instant application. Yeh purportedly relies on several provisional applications filed in June, 2003. Although Applicants have amended their claims to expedite prosecution and allowance as suggested by the Examiner, Applicants do not acquiesce to the propriety of applying Yeh as a reference against the instant application. Further, Applicants do not concede that the disclosures in Yeh are supported by the content of Yeh's various provisional applications. Moreover, Applicants do not concede propriety of the Examiner taking Official Notice of the various alleged well-known subject matter.

Applicants have canceled claim 1. Applicants have further amended claim 2 to incorporate the features of dependent claim 11 and intervening claim 9 as suggested by Examiner (Office Action, page 8). Applicants request the reconsideration and allowance of claim 2. Claims 3, 4, 6-10, 12-17, 20, 30, and 32 depend from claim. For at least the above reasons and further in view of their own features, claims 3, 4, 6-10, 12-17, 20, 30, and 32 are patentable over the cited reference. Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration and allowance of claims 3, 4, 6-10, 12-17, 20, 30, and 32.

New Claim

Applicants have added new claim 35, which incorporates the subject matter of original claims 2, 9, and 11 in response to the Examiner's indication that the subject matter of dependent claim 11 would be allowable if written in independent form. Applicants respectfully request the consideration and allowance of claim 35.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Michael D. Specht
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 54,463

Date: 7/24/08

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600
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